

**CLAIMS**

1-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) An illumination unit for fundus cameras and/or ophthalmoscopes, comprising:

an illumination source for emitting light;

a front lens; and

individual light-conducting fibers or bundles of light-conducting fibers which extend into the area of the front lens, the fibers and the front lens being positioned such that they do not contact the eye being examined;

wherein the light emitted by the illumination source is coupled into the fibers; and

wherein ends of the fibers are formed in such a way that, without the use of a scleral contact lens, the exiting light is projected on the sclera of an eye to be examined and transilluminates the sclera.

6. (original) The illumination unit according to claim 5, wherein at least one light-conducting fiber or bundle of light-conducting fibers is provided and arranged in such a way that the light of the illumination source transilluminates the sclera in the nasal and temporal area.

7. (previously presented) The illumination unit according to claim 5, wherein an additional pulsed light source is provided for electronic and/or photographic documentation in addition to the illumination source, which provides continuous illumination of the sclera for purposes of observation, wherein the light of the continuous illumination source is imaged in the focal plane of the pulsed light source by an optical means.

8. (previously presented) The illumination unit according to claim 5, wherein the ends of the light-conducting fibers or light-conducting fiber bundle located in the area of the front lens can be moved separately or jointly independent from the position of the fundus camera and/or ophthalmoscope.